AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a torsion bar having a spring portion in a midway area in a longitudinal direction and joint portions on both ends in the longitudinal direction, comprising:

a first shaping step of reducing a diameter of a steel material by reduction of cross-sectional area by an amount within a predetermined range according to cold drawing work so as to heighten a hardness of ~~the~~ an entire steel material within a predetermined range; and

a second shaping step of cutting the midway area of the steel material in the longitudinal direction so as to obtain the spring portion.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a torsion bar having a spring portion in a midway area in a longitudinal direction and joint portions on both ends in the longitudinal direction, comprising:

a first shaping step of reducing a diameter of a steel material by reduction of cross sectional area by an amount within a predetermined range according to

cold drawing work so as to heighten a hardness of an entire steel material within a predetermined range; and

a second shaping step of cutting the midway area of the steel material in the longitudinal direction so as to obtain the spring portion ~~The method of manufacturing the torsion bar according to claim 1~~, wherein the Vickers hardness (HV) ~~hardness~~ of the entire steel material after the cold drawing work is 320 ~~or more~~ to 450 ~~or less by Vickers hardness (HV)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a torsion bar having a spring portion in a midway area in a longitudinal direction and joint portions on both ends in the longitudinal direction, comprising:

a first shaping step of reducing a diameter of a steel material by reduction of cross sectional area by an amount within a predetermined range according to cold drawing work so as to heighten a hardness of an entire steel material within a predetermined range; and

a second shaping step of cutting the midway area of the steel material in the longitudinal direction so as to obtain the spring portion ~~The method of manufacturing the torsion bar according to claim 1~~, wherein the reduction of cross sectional area is 12 to 15%.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the torsion bar according to claim 1, wherein at the first shaping step, the diameter of the shaped steel material ~~with the diameter being~~ is reduced by the cold drawing work ~~is set~~ so as to be slightly larger than a finished diameter of the joint portions, and at the second shaping step, ~~not only~~ the spring portion ~~but also~~ and the joint portions are cut so that the finished diameter of the joint portions is ~~managed~~ attained.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a torsion bar having a spring portion in a midway area in a longitudinal direction and joint portions on both ends in the longitudinal direction, comprising:

a first shaping step of reducing a diameter of a steel material by reduction of cross sectional area by an amount within a predetermined range according to cold drawing work so as to heighten a hardness of an entire steel material within a predetermined range; and

a second shaping step of cutting the midway area of the steel material in the longitudinal direction so as to obtain the spring portion ~~The method of manufacturing the torsion bar according to claim 1~~, wherein at the first shaping step, the cold drawing work is carried out [[at]] a plurality of times, and in an equation $\gamma = \{(A0 - A1) / A0\} \times 100$ in which the reduction of cross sectional area of the steel material at each time is $\gamma(\%)$, a cross section of the steel material

before the drawing work is A0, and a cross section of the steel material after final work of the drawing work is A1, the reduction of cross sectional area is set to 12 to 15%, and the Vickers hardness (HV) is set to 320 or more.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the torsion bar according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the~~ a blueing step of ~~giving~~ performing blueing work [[to]] on the steel material before or after the second shaping step.

7. (Currently Amended) A torsion bar having a spring portion in a midway ~~portion~~ area in a longitudinal direction and joint portions on both ends in the longitudinal direction, said torsion bar being manufactured by a first shaping step of reducing a diameter of a steel material by reduction of cross sectional area by an amount within a predetermined range according to cold drawing work so as to heighten a hardness of ~~the~~ an entire steel material within a predetermined range and the second shaping step of cutting the midway area of the steel material in the longitudinal direction so as to obtain the spring portion.

8. (Currently Amended) The torsion bar according to claim 7, wherein the hardness of the entire steel material after the cold drawing work is 320 ~~or more~~ to 450 ~~or less~~ by Vickers hardness (HV) testing.

9. (Currently Amended) A torsion bar having a spring portion in a midway area in a longitudinal direction and joint portions on both ends in the longitudinal direction, said torsion bar being manufactured by a first shaping step of reducing a diameter of a steel material by reduction of cross sectional area by an amount within a predetermined range according to cold drawing work so as to heighten a hardness of an entire steel material within a predetermined range and the second shaping step of cutting the midway area of the steel material in the longitudinal direction so as to obtain the spring portion ~~The torsion bar according to claim 7~~, wherein the reduction of cross sectional area is 12 to 15%.

10. (New) The method of manufacturing a torsion bar according to claim 1, wherein said steel material is configured in a solid shape which is not hollow in a longitudinal direction.

11. (New) The torsion bar according to claim 7, wherein said steel material is configured in a solid shape which is not hollow in a longitudinal direction.

12. (New) The method of manufacturing a torsion bar according to claim 1, wherein said steel material has a uniform diameter after said first shaping step.

13. (New) The torsion bar according to claim 7, wherein said steel material has a uniform diameter after said first shaping step.

14. (New) An apparatus comprising:

the torsion bar according to claim 1;

a steering wheel; and

a steering gear box, wherein

said torsion bar is a torsion bar for transmitting a rotating power of said steering wheel to said steering gear box.

15. (New) An apparatus comprising:

the torsion bar according to claim 7;

a steering wheel; and

a steering gear box, wherein

said torsion bar is a torsion bar for transmitting a rotating power of said steering wheel to said steering gear box.